



PATENT  
Attorney Docket **56100-5002-01**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Allan C. **SPRADLING** *et al.* )  
)  
Application No. 09/358,937 ) Group Art Unit: 1632  
)  
Filed: July 23, 1999 ) Examiner: J. T. Woitach  
)  
For: **METHOD FOR MAINTENANCE** )  
**AND PROPAGATION OF** )  
**GERMLINE STEM CELLS USING** )  
**MEMBERS OF THE TGF- FAMILY** )  
**OF GROWTH FACTORS** )

Commissioner of Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
2011 South Clark Place  
Customer Window, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

**AMENDMENT & REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION  
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.116**

This Reply is responsive to the Office Action dated April 9, 2003, the time period for response to which expired July 9, 2003. An extension of time for three months is being filed concurrently, thereby extending the period for response to October 9, 2003. Entry of the following remarks and reconsideration of the claimed subject matter is respectfully requested. A copy of the currently pending claims is provided below, consistent with the new format for amendments.

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